

**Estrada, Shawn**

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**From:** Estrada, Shawn  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2009 4:54 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) 'Jerry Thompson'  
**Cc:** Casteneda, David C  
**Subject:** FW: Alaskan Copper Co - Tank clean out  
**Attachments:** Tank Closure.jpg

Good Afternoon Jim, I wanted to get you up to speed with the tank closure project. Below this e-mail is the correspondence between Warren Walton of the WDOE and CHES.

Wednesday 8/12/09

The crew per Warren Walton set up and did a confined space entry into the crawl space under the facility with the intention of getting as close to the passivation tank to look for signs of leakage or staining. A technician was sent in to the space and headed in from the west side of the tank and ran into a wall that appeared to be the end of the crawl space. The Wall ended at the west side of the tank and from that side there was no appearance or signs of leakage or staining. The tech took pictures and then exited the area.

The crew set up the rigging and pulled the passivation tank out of its containment cell. Upon pulling the tank we discovered an opening in the north end of the containment cell that appears to have compromised the containment cell. We had the crew enter the tank and remove all of the debris that had collected in the tank over the years to make sure there were no other openings in the containment. The debris from the cell was placed into containers for shipment. The tank was wrapped up in 6 mil plastic and set on blocks to the side. The cell was then covered in plastic and secured in place with staples the area was then coned and caution taped off.

Thursday 8/13/09

The crew plugged the opening with a sump matt, absorbent, pads, and diasorb, and began applying neutralizer to all the surfaces in the containment cell. The cell was then scrubbed with brushes and steam cleaned. The neutralizer is a colorsafe product and changes colors to indicate whether or not the surface areas still maintain corrosive properties. The neutralizer was used again and indicates all surface had been neutralized. The cell was then covered in plastic and secured in place with staples the area was then coned and caution taped off.

Friday 8/14/09

The crew began removing the foam insulation from the exterior of the tank, and began drilling cores for the samples.

Monday 8/17/09

The crew finished the foam removal from the exterior of the tank, in the process we discovered that the tank had had several holes eaten through it, we then contacted Jerry who had already been to the location on his own and saw some of the damage. The crew also finished drilling the cores in the concrete for the required sampling, the crew then demobed the site. Last week we contacted a utility locator company and are waiting to sample until we have sample areas cleared for digging.

At this time it is my opinion that the tank is badly damaged and would be very costly to repair. Per Jerry's recommendation I am putting together two separate quotes for disposal of the tank so you have the numbers should you decide to go down that path. Due to the depth that DOE has asked us to sample to, approximately 10 feet, we need to get the area checked for utilities. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Shawn A. Estrada  
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11/20/2009

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**From:** Casteneda, David C  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2009 2:48 PM  
**To:** 'Walton, Warren (ECY)'; Estrada, Shawn  
**Cc:** Dunn, Matthew K  
**Subject:** RE: Alaskan Copper Co - Tank clean out

Warren, here are a couple photos of what we discovered. Thanks for the information.

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**From:** Walton, Warren (ECY) [mailto:WWAL461@ECY.WA.GOV]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2009 2:11 PM  
**To:** Estrada, Shawn  
**Cc:** Misko, David (ECY); Casteneda, David C; Dunn, Matthew K; Yasuda, Dean (ECY)  
**Subject:** RE: Alaskan Copper Co - Tank clean out

Good afternoon Shawn –

I spoke with Matt Dunn this morning about progress at Alaskan Copper Co – tank clean out. Afterward, I spoke with one of our clean up engineers, a chemist, and someone from Toxics Cleanup Program (TCP).

Ecology cannot tell you how to clean, but here are some considerations:

Get down to groundwater. Do a pH and TCLP for metals. Groundwater should be encountered at about 10 feet. Primary metal of concern is arsenic.

The big concern is that the nitric may have made metals in the ground – soluble.

This is an industrial area. Other facilities may have generated a plume of some kind encroaching into the area under the tanks' location.

Please do the basic sampling you have outlined. The tank cleaning project may go in a different direction or maybe the acid did not travel, which would make everyone's lives simpler. In any case, as you suggested, do the sampling and go from there.

Yes, I would like whatever photos you have taken showing the condition of the tank – especially the inside and outside tank bottom, the hole found under the tank, and any liquid tracks toward the hole from anywhere else in the building.

Matt, thanks for contacting me and keeping me up to speed as the tank project proceeds.

Respectfully,

Warren Walton, CHMM  
Department of Ecology  
Hazardous Waste Compliance  
NWRO – Bellevue  
425 649-7216

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**From:** Walton, Warren (ECY)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2009 7:53 AM  
**To:** Estrada, Shawn  
**Cc:** Misko, David (ECY); 'Casteneda, David C'  
**Subject:** Alaskan Copper Co - Tank clean out

11/20/2009

Shawn –

Good morning. When I met you August 7, Clean Harbors was set to raise the tank pH. A worker was dressed out in PPE and the bicarbonate solution was moved into position.

Please give me an update on the tank clean out project. Do you have a time line for completion of this project? Have you encountered any problems? Are there plans to take core samples to be analyzed?

You can call or e-mail me. I will want copies of all bills of lading and hazardous waste manifests generated from the clean out.

Respectfully,

Warren J. Walton, CHMM  
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11/20/2009